Message Text

SECRET

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FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3612

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, SU, US

SUBJECT: USG/GOS RELATIONS

REF: (A) KHARTOUM 76 3769; (B) STATE 76 310713;

AND (C) KHARTOUM 0197

1. DURING MEETING WITH MINSTATE SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL
AFFS DR. BAHA AL-DIN IDRIS FEB 9, HE ASKED ME WHETHER
DEPT HAD RESPONDED TO HIS EARLIER QUERY RE ASSISTANCE (REF A).).
REPLIED I HAD INDEED BEEN INSTRUCTED TO
MAKE A PRESENTATION TO NIMEIRI IN MID-JANUARY DURING
WHICH I HAD ASSURED HIM THAT WE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT
STATESMANLIKE EFFORTS RESOLVE AREA PROBLEMS AND HOPE
TO CULTIVATE OUR BILATERAL TIES AND ASSIST SUDANESE
DEVELOPMENT (REFS B AND C). ONE STEP WE WERE NOW
PREPARED TAKE WAS SIGNATURE SUBSTANTIAL PL 480 TITLE I
WHEAT AGREEMENT WHENEVER GOS AUTHORITIES WERE READY.

2. IDRIS REPLIED THIS TYPE OF GENERALIZED SUPPORT WAS WHAT GOS WANTED TO HEAR. SUDANESE COULD GET MONEY FOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS FROM SAUDIS, UAE OR OTHERS BUT THESE PROSPECTIVE DONORS INVARIABLY ASKED WHETHER PROJECT FEASIBILITY DOCUMENTS HAD BEEN DONE BY AMERICAN, SECRET

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WEST GERMAN, BRITISH, FRENCH OR DUTCH FIRMS
GOS THEREFORE WANTED MAXIMUM INVOLVEMENT AMERICAN
TECHNICAL EXPERTISE IN PREPARING PROJECT DOCUMENTS.
REPLIED I KNEW MANY AMERICAN FIRMS SHARED THIS
VIEW BUT QUESTION OFTEN AROSE AS TO FINANCING
FOR FEASIBILITY STUDIES. IDRIS INDICATED THIS
SHOULD BE MANAGEABLE.

3. COMMENT. IDRIS DID NOT SEEM SURPRISED BY
LIMITED NATURE OUR RESPONSE NOR DID HE PRESS
FOR SPECIFIC ANSWER ON QUESTION OF ANY
USG ASSOCIATION IN SPECIFIC GOS ACTIVITY (PARA 4,
REF A). SINCE THIS HAD NOT COME UP WHEN I SAW
PRESIDENT, I THOUGH IT PREFERABLE NOT
RAISE IT. BELIEVE SUDANESE HOPE
ACHIEVE WHATEVER THEY HAVE IN MIND IN THIS AREA
THROUGH CONTINUING CONTACTS WITH SAUDIS, IRANIANS,
MOROCCANS, EGYPTIANS, AND CONCEIVABLY SYRIANS.
BREWER

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NNN

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